

Borough of



Accrington.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer
For the Year 1912.

ARTHUR GREENHALGH,
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

ACCRINGTON:
Jas. Broadley Ltd., Printers, "Gutenberg" Works.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

From November, 1912, to November, 1913.

Chairman : - - - Alderman W. H. RAWSON.

Vice-Chairman : - Councillor J. H. LUPTON.

THE MAYOR (Councillor J. HARWOOD).

Alderman D. C. DEWHURST.

„ T. E. NUTTALL.

Councillor J. BARLOW.

„ G. BROWNBILL.

„ J. CLAYTON.

„ J. C. LUPTON.

„ T. MORLEY.

„ J. SMITH.

„ W. R. SWAN.

„ T. WALMSLEY.

„ S. WOOLER.

Day of Meeting :

Thursday, generally the third in the month, at 4-15 p.m.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

ARTHUR GREENHALGH, M.B., Ch. B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

RICHARD DIGGLE, Assoc. Royal San. Inst.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

JOHN E. CRAWSHAW, Cert. Royal San. Inst.

Clerks :

HORACE FODEN, Cert. Royal San. Inst.

JOHN A. HINDLE.

Disinfecter and Caretaker of Smallpox Hospital :

JOHN R. WOODCOCK.

Foremen of Scavenging Departments :

WILLIAM HOWARD.

WILLIAM T. BIRTLES.

To the Sanitary Authority of the Borough of Accrington.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration, my Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1912.

I estimate the population of the Borough at the middle of the year 1912 to be 45,175, and this is the figure upon which all the rates are calculated in this Report.

In 1911, the natural increase, that is the excess of the number of births over deaths, sunk to the puny figure of 81 as against 366, the average for the preceding five years. In 1912, this figure stands at 315. This reversion to more like our accustomed type of a natural increase is due to the exceedingly small number of deaths (499, against an average of 632 for the preceding five years) rather than to any increase in the number of births, which was 847, against 941, the average for the five preceding years; 847 is, however, an increase of 55 upon the figure for 1911.

The death-rate during 1912 is very substantially the lowest we have record of, and the saving has occurred chiefly in infants; only 65 deaths under one year of life being recorded during the year as against 122, the average for the preceding five years.

The very wet summer we had in 1912 is, I believe, the chief cause of the low death-rate; much rain means plentiful washings of our streets and sewers, compelling us to have a high degree of cleanliness, and it is a very safe working hypothesis that cleanliness means health. Anything that the Council can do to improve the cleanliness of the air, food, and more than all, the habits of the people over whom they have governance, will be attended with a rich reward, by preventing sickness and improving the resisting powers of the inhabitants against diseases of all kinds.

Of the 532 deaths registered during the year, 49 have been certified as due to "old age," this being the greatest number in any one class, the next in order is Bronchitis with 45 deaths. Tuberculosis of all kinds has been responsible for 53 deaths against 55, the average for the preceding five years. Cancer caused 29 deaths as against an average of 43 for the five preceding years.

During August and September, a good deal of the time of the staff in the Health Office has been taken up by carrying out the provisions of the Contagious Diseases Animals Acts specially with relation to Foot and Mouth Disease.

I am satisfied that the scavenging of the Borough is being carried out in a very satisfactory manner, never at any time has it been better done. The improved ashbin continues to grow in favour, well over a 1,000 are now in use in the Borough.

The medical inspection of the public elementary schools remains under my care. Most of the school buildings are in very excellent condition, and the care and cleanliness of the children reaches a high degree of satisfaction. Some negligence is, however, shown as regards the eyesight of the children, great numbers are in need of spectacles, but are allowed by their parents to go without them—this is a matter which should have attention.

The Staff of the Health Department remains unchanged, and again I have to tender my thanks to the Town Clerk, the Borough Engineer, the Chief and Assistant Sanitary Inspectors, as well as the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, for many kindnesses during the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR GREENHALGH,

Medical Officer of Health.

Population.

The statistics contained in this Report are based upon a population of 45,175, which I estimate would be the population of the Borough at the middle of the year 1912.

A copy of the Census returns of 1911 appears below.

	Dwellings.			Buildings not used as Dwellings.	Population.		
	Inhabited	Uninhabited	Building.		Males.	Females.	Persons.
West Ward.....	1280	23	1	57	2501	2962	5463
Central Ward	1335	28	1	433	2814	3060	5874
North Ward	1415	35	28	79	2791	3181	5972
Peel Park Ward....	1577	27	8	91	3039	3484	6523
East Ward	1301	25	...	190	2593	2818	5411
South Ward	1368	15	9	62	2634	2955	5589
Higher Antley Ward	1098	22	9	60	2040	2288	4328
Spring Hill Ward ..	1315	20	4	54	2797	3074	5871
Accrington.....	10689	195	60	1026	21209	23822	45031

Census Year.	Population.	Increase in 10 years.	Inhabited Houses.	Increase in 10 years.	Average number of persons in each house
1881	31435		6396		4.9
1891	38603	7168	8155	1759	4.7
1901	43122	4519	9515	1360	4.5
1911	45031	1909	10689	1174	4.2

The following shows the number of new houses certified as fit for occupation during the year 1912, arranged according to the Wards in which they are situated.

West Ward	9
Central Ward	—
North Ward	34
Peel Park Ward	7
East Ward	11
South Ward	14
Higher Antley Ward	10
Spring Hill Ward	9

Area.—The area of the Borough, according to the last Ordnance Survey, is 3,426.6 acres, giving a density of 13 persons to the acre. The urban portion of the Borough has a considerably higher density than this, but cannot be estimated with accuracy.

Altitudes.—Altitudes at centre of Town and Boundaries.

	Feet above Sea Level.
Town Hall: Ordnance Bench Mark	441.60
Centre of Street opposite	439.00

Boundaries at :—

Blackburn Road (adjoining Church) :—

Bench Mark on Boundary Stone	413.00
Centre of Road opposite	412.19

Whalley Road (adjoining Altham) :—

Bench Mark on Boundary Stone	515.00
Centre of Road opposite	513.80

Burnley Road (adjoining Huncoat) :—

Bench Mark on Boundary Stone	563.00
Centre of Road opposite	562.04

Manchester Road (adjoining Baxenden Station) :—

Bench Mark on Boundary Stone	757.00
Centre of Road opposite	755.90

Datum : Mean High Water Mark at Liverpool.

Occupations.—The occupations of the people are of varied character. The staple industries are cotton weaving, cotton spinning, the manufacture of cotton spinning machinery, calico printing, and coal mining. Brickmaking is an industry carried on at several places on the outskirts of the Borough.

A large proportion of the female portion of the population finds employment in the cotton mills of the town.

Deaths.—499 deaths, 241 males and 258 females, have been registered in the Borough during the year, giving a crude death-rate equal to 11.04 per 1,000 of the estimated population per annum.

10 deaths were “uncertified” either by the Coroner or by a registered medical practitioner, 6 males, 4 females; 28 deaths, 19 males and 9 females, have been certified by the Coroner.

The Report from Mr. Townsend, the Cemetery Registrar, states that he has received for interment 45 infants who have not been born alive.

Death-Rate Corrected.—Arrangements have this year been made by the Registrar General for a list of births and deaths which have occurred outside the districts of their “fixed or usual residence” to be sent to their rightful district Medical Officers for inclusion in their statistics.

In the case of Accrington, this list amounts to 45 deaths and 5 Births to be included, and 12 deaths excluded.

The total deaths appertaining to the Borough are as follows :—

Deaths occurring in Borough (excluding 33 in the Victoria Hospital, and excluding 1 death of a “Non-Resident” at the Railway Station) ..	465
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Deaths in Victoria Hospital	33
-----------------------------------	----

Less deaths of persons in Victoria Hospital residing outside the Borough (non-residents)	11
--	----

Deaths of Accrington residents in Victoria Hospital	—	22
---	---	----

Deaths of Accrington residents occurring outside the Borough, viz. :—

Haslingden Union Workhouse, Pike Law	32
Blackburn	1
Blackpool	1
Brierfield	1
Chorley	1
Church	2
Fleetwood	1
Great Harwood	1
Lancaster	1
Macclesfield	1
Morecambe	1
Preston	1
Rishton	1
	—
	45

532

giving a corrected death-rate of 11.77 per 1,000 per annum, as against 15.77 for the year 1911.

The following were the death-rates for England and Wales during 1912 :—

England and Wales	13.3	per 1,000 living.
95 Great Towns (including London)	14.6	„
146 Small Towns	13.0	„
England and Wales (less the 241 Towns)	12.1	„
London	14.3	„

Accrington :—

Crude annual death-rate per 1,000	11.04
Corrected „ „ (including 45 deaths outside the Borough, and excluding 11 non-residents at the Victoria Hospital, and 1 other)	11.77
Births :—Males	443
Females	404
	— 847
Deaths	532
	—
Excess of Births over deaths	315
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.....	65
Giving an infant mortality per 1,000 births of....	76.74

The following table gives the recorded death-rate for the last 22 years :—

YEAR.	MORTALITY PER 1,000	YEAR.	MORTALITY PER 1,000
1891	20.17	1902	13.76
1892	17.28	1903	14.83
1893	17.21	1904	15.96
1894	13.23	1905	13.62
1895	18.14	1906	13.63
1896	15.87	1907	14.94
1897	17.17	1908	14.85
1898	15.77	1909	15.19
1899	15.25	1910	13.37
1900	16.05	1911	15.77
1901	16.33	1912	11.77

The following table shows the seasonable distribution of deaths, including deaths of 45 Accrington "residents" occurring at Pike Law, etc., and excluding 11 deaths of "non-residents" in Victoria Hospital, and 1 other.

MONTH.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
January	28	18	46
February	26	33	59
March	23	26	49
April	21	20	41
May	22	19	41
June	12	18	30
July	20	26	46
August	22	23	45
September	14	18	32
October	22	22	44
November	21	24	45
December	26	28	54
	257	275	532

A Table similar to the following has appeared in a few previous reports, and I believe is of interest. I again insert it with the addition of the figures for 1912.

Year.	Total Deaths.	Certified as "Old Age."	All Causes. Over 70.	All Causes. Over 50.	Percentage. Over 50.
1912	532	49	120	286	53%
1911	711	38	133	334	47%
1910	600	36	112	299	50%
1909	679	53	134	337	49%
1908	662	31	103	271	41%
1907	663	43	103	326	49%
1906	602	30	98	265	44%
	—3206	—193	—550	—1498	—46%
1905	599	30	84	251	42%
1904	699	31	106	286	41%
1903	647	32	79	254	39%
1902	598	31	90	264	44%
1901	706	39	89	267	37%
	—3249	—163	—448	—1322	—40%

Births.—847 births—443 males, 404 females—have been registered, giving a birth-rate equal to 18.75 per 1,000 per annum.

The birth-rates in 1912 for England and Wales were as follows :—

England and Wales		23.8	per 1,000 living.
95 Great Towns (including			
London)	24.9	„	
146 Smaller Towns		23.8	„
England and Wales (less the			
241 Towns)		22.6	„
London		24.7	„
Accrington		18.75	„

The birth-rate per 1,000 living, at all ages, for the last 22 years is shown below :—

Year.	Birth-Rate.	Year.	Birth-Rate.
1891	30.61	1902	23.61
1892	29.48	1903	22.14
1893	28.71	1904	22.90
1894	26.30	1905	21.08
1895	27.49	1906	22.09
1896	27.67	1907	23.17
1897	25.54	1908	22.71
1898	24.64	1909	21.16
1899	24.26	1910	20.63
1900	26.01	1911	17.57
1901	24.84	1912	18.75

The following table shows an analysis of the births allocated to the eight wards of the Borough ; the seasonable distribution as regards the month of the year in which they were registered and their sex ; the totals for the wards specify the legitimates and illegitimates. The populations estimated to the middle of the year are also given for each ward together with the death-rates, birth-rates and infant mortality rates, and also the same figures for the Borough as a whole.

BIRTHS REGISTERED, 1912.

1912	West Ward		Central Ward		North Ward		Peel Park Ward		East Ward		South Ward		Higher Antley Ward		Spring Hill Ward		Whole Borough	
MONTH	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
January	7	2	7	4	3	4	4	10	8	1	5	4	4	3	5	7	43	35
February	3	8	4	3	3	3	3	7	3	4	5	4	1	6	3	5	25	40
March	5	4	4	..	6	6	5	2	5	9	6	5	..	2	5	5	36	33
April	3	5	4	3	7	2	4	7	7	1	5	5	8	3	4	2	42	28
May	4	7	4	3	6	5	6	6	3	5	4	4	..	1	4	4	31	35
June	5	1	4	3	9	2	1	3	3	1	1	2	..	1	6	3	29	16
July	1	4	5	7	5	3	6	5	5	1	6	8	5	9	7	5	40	42
August	2	3	5	8	1	3	1	7	4	5	7	5	4	2	4	3	28	36
September	5	3	6	6	5	2	4	8	10	9	4	2	7	..	5	4	46	34
October	4	3	1	2	2	2	7	5	10	4	9	9	6	5	7	5	46	35
November	2	1	3	6	2	2	3	3	6	9	8	3	3	4	2	3	29	31
December	6	3	3	6	5	6	6	10	6	5	4	..	8	3	6	5	44	38
Workhouse ..	2	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1
	49	44	51	52	55	40	50	73	70	54	64	51	46	39	58	51	443	404

TOTAL BIRTHS:

Legitimate .. 89\ 93 100\ 103 93\ 95 122\ 123 122\ 124 112\ 115 81\ 85 102\ 109 821\ 847
 Illegitimate.. 4\ 4 3\ 3 2\ 2 1\ 1 2\ 2 3\ 3 4\ 4 7\ 7 26\ 26

BIRTH-RATE .. 16.99 17.53 15.74 18.83 22.86 20.49 19.56 18.53 18.75

INFANT

MORTALITY .. 64.51 155.34 84.21 40.65 129.03 60.87 58.82 18.35 76.74

DEATH-RATE .. 10.59 15.32 13.59 11.94 14.38 9.26 8.84 11.77

POPULATION .. 5474 5874 6033 6532 5424 5611 4345 5882 45175

STATEMENT shewing the number of Marriages within the Borough of Accrington during the years 1903 to 1912.

	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
Chapel Marriages, with the presence of the Registrar ..	149	136	117	116	121	119	101	118	101	106
Chapel Marriages, without the presence of the Registrar ..	8	2	49	59	61	75	66	68	87	83
Church Marriages	209	161	216	195	235	193	221	181	207	198
Register Office Marriages; the Man being resident in Accrington	17	24	23	23	30	27	26	30	26	23
	383	323	405	393	447	414	414	397	421	410

Natural Increase of Population.—The excess of births over deaths is 315. The corresponding figures for the last twenty-one years are :—

Year.	Increase.	Year.	Increase.
1892	438	1903	319
1893	456	1904	304
1894	525	1905	328
1895	380	1906	374
1896	485	1907	365
1897	348	1908	350
1898	372	1909	267
1899	382	1910	326
1900	426	1911	81
1901	368	1912	315
1902	428		

Infant Mortality.—This term means the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births registered during the year. There have been 847 births registered, and 65 deaths, which works out to an Infant Mortality of 76.74, very much the lowest we have record of, as a following table will show.

Table IV gives a comprehensive analysis of the deaths. It is to be noted that 25 of the 65 deaths occurred during the first week of life, and no less a number than 34, more than half, before the end of the first month. In most of these cases, and many more, pre-natal conditions are at fault—industrialism has such a great hold on the minds of the people that the needs of poor mother nature have too often to be sacrificed in order that the wages may be there at the week-end.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, is not in operation, the Local Government Board refused our application to adopt it on the ground that no Lady Health Visitor was employed. The question of appointing such an officer has been discussed by the Council on several occasions, and although the wisdom of such an appointment has grown in favour it has not so far been able to secure a majority of the Councillors to support it.

Cards of instruction on the feeding of infants are given to certified midwives for distribution to houses where births occur, and are a great advantage in many cases. The experience of the doctors practising in the town is that the proportion of mothers who are able to feed their babies in the best, safest, and most natural way—at the breast, tends to become less, and the desire to escape this duty is not infrequently very pronounced.

As compared with previous years, 1912 stands out as a very magnificent record. The wet and cool summer prevented what is called summer diarrhœa, in other words the chance of getting sour and tainted milk. Nature saw this great danger and provided breast feeding, the best, the surest way of giving an infant the sustenance it needs.

The Infantile Death-rates for England and Wales during 1912 were as follows :—

England and Wales	95 per 1,000 Births.	
95 Great Towns (including		
London) 101		„
146 Smaller Towns	99	„
England and Wales (less		
the 241 Towns).....	86	„
London	90	„
Accrington	76	„

For the last twenty-two years, the Infant Mortality has been :—

Year.	Mortality.	Year.	Mortality.
1891	151.8	1902	130.60
1892	138.0	1903	130.43
1893	190.3	1904	148.55
1894	122.0	1905	137.00
1895	192.3	1906	132.17
1896	171.4	1907	107.00
1897	187.38	1908	137.35
1898	201.15	1909	123.68
1899	178.98	1910	109.07
1900	143.75	1911	180.55
1901	159.21	1912	76.74

Zymotic Diseases.—The seven principal Zymotic Diseases have together caused 16 deaths, giving a Zymotic death-rate of .35 ; Scarlet Fever 3, Measles 2, Typhoid Fever 5, Zymotic Enteritis 2, Whooping Cough 1, Diphtheria 3, and Small-pox none.

We have no form of hospital isolation, except for small-pox, but we endeavour, by means of printed instructions carried by an assistant from the Health Office, to secure as good isolation as is possible at home. We can, of course, only use our influence in the cases of notifiable disease.

COMPARISON OF PREVALENCE OF SICKNESS AND DEATH FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

19

YEAR.	SMALLPOX.		ERYSIPELAS.		DIPHTHERIA & MEMBRANOUS CROUP.		SCARLET FEVER.		ENTERIC FEVER.		PUERPERAL FEVER.	
	Cases reported	Deaths	Cases reported	Deaths	Cases reported	Deaths	Cases reported	Deaths	Cases reported	Deaths	Cases reported	Deaths
1893	6	..	..	1	29	7	34	1	52	6	4	2
1894	2	1	..	2	37	10	127	2	23	3	..	..
1895	..	..	..	4	31	17	163	9	178	13	1	..
1896	..	..	..	3	40	12	177	8	54	10	4	4
1897	..	..	..	4	32	15	328	9	48	5	5	4
1898	..	..	..	3	38	10	287	11	52	13	4	2
1899	1	..	..	..	27	16	398	10	35	4	2	..
1900	..	..	..	1	21	10	218	4	33	7	1	2
1901	..	..	..	2	13	3	154	9	25	8	2	2
1902	4	..	..	2	27	6	115	4	35	6	5	4
1903	43	1	6	3	29	6	275	21	24	8	2	1
1904	4	..	25	1	14	2	157	6	30	7	4	1
1905	35	1	42	2	20	7	84	4	29	6	5	2
1906	..	..	48	1	52	10	82	4	20	6	3	2
1907	..	..	29	..	45	9	85	3	22	8	4	4
1908	..	..	23	1	48	9	232	1	22	4	4	4
1909	..	..	30	3	24	7	180	..	15	8	7	6
1910	..	..	34	2	14	3	82	..	23	5	2	..
1911	..	..	42	3	25	9	94	5	15	8	4	..
1912	..	..	16	1	10	3	103	3	18	5	2	1

The number of deaths from the Principal Zymotic Diseases for the last 15 years is as under :—

DISEASES.	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
Scarlet Fever	11	10	4	9	4	21	6	4	4	3	1	..	..	5	3
Measles	30	2	21	21	4	35	25	4	13	8	31	5	15	8	2
Enteric Fever	13	4	7	8	6	8	7	6	6	8	4	8	5	8	5
Zymotic Enteritis	30	57	29	32	3	11	10	5	18	4	19	4	6	31	2
Whooping Cough	8	9	13	4	16	1	14	..	12	6	19	8	6	28	1
Diphtheria															
Membranous Group...	7	6	10	3	6	4	2	7	10	9	9	7	3	9	3
Smallpox	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	99	88	84	77	39	81	64	27	63	38	83	32	35	89	16

Scarlet Fever. — The cases notified, and deaths resulting from this disease during 1912 are as follows:—

	Borough.	W.	C.	N.	P.P.	E.	S.	H.A.	S.H.
Cases notified	103	13	9	15	20	12	8	11	15
Deaths	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

After each case, disinfection of the room, bedding, clothing, etc., is carried out, and it is very seldom that we get another case occurring in the same house that can be attributed to the one for which disinfection has been carried out, so that I have every reason to be satisfied with the method and efficiency of our practice.

Enteric Fever.—Typhoid Fever has been certified as the cause of five deaths out of 18 cases notified. The details as to Wards are as follows:—

	Borough.	W.	C.	N.	P.P.	E.	S.	H.A.	S.H.
Cases notified	18	1	2	1	3	2	7	2	..
Deaths	5	1	2	1	..	..	1	..	..

This disease continues to have a very high case mortality as shown by the accompanying table. The prevalence of the complaint has markedly diminished in recent years, attributable to our improved sanitary conditions—for some years back we have provided a suitably constructed galvanised iron pail for the reception of the dejecta of all patients notified as suffering from this disease, together with a plentiful supply of antiseptics, and these pails are collected regularly, and their contents destroyed by fire. Nothing short of hospital treatment will give the poor person who cannot afford the great expense necessary for the nursing and care of disease, the best chance of recovery. Hospital treatment, would, I believe, reduce very greatly the case mortality from this disease, and would also additionally reduce the diminishing prevalence.

This table shews the number of cases of this disease notified and the deaths therefrom, since 1891 to the present time.

Period.	Notified.	Deaths.	Case mortality
			per cent.
1891 to 1895	298	38	12.7
1896 to 1900	222	39	17.5
1901 to 1905	143	35	24.4
1906 to 1910	102	31	30.4
1911	15	8	53.3
1912	18	5	27.7
	798	156	19.5

Diphtheria.—10 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, and three deaths have resulted therefrom.

A convenient outfit for taking throat swabs, and also a supply of anti-diphtheritic serum is kept at the Police Station, for the convenience of doctors called to attend cases of this disease. The Council defray the expense of the bacteriological examination of the throat swabs, and also undertake to consider the payment for serum used in households where expense might stand in the way of this valuable remedy. The efficacy of the serum is in proportion to its earliness of injection, after the first three days of the disease, its power is very greatly diminished.

In all cases an inspection of the house and drains is made immediately after receipt of notification.

Phthisis.—Tuberculous disease of all kinds has been responsible for 53 deaths, as against an average of 55 for the five preceding years. The death certificates indicate that 36 deaths were due to affections of the lungs; nine to affections of the membrane of the brain; four to affections of the abdomen; and the remaining four to affections of other organs.

Throughout the country the death-rate from this form of disease is on the decline, and some hopeful observers foretell that in a not distant future, deaths from this disease will become as rare as deaths from smallpox are at the present time.

The following notifications of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been received :—

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908..	16
Public Health (Tuberculosis in Hospitals) Regulations, 1911	3
Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1911..	86
affecting 95 persons.	

Compulsory notification of all forms of Tuberculosis becomes operative on February 1st, 1913, and this will give the Health Authority most valuable information as regards the amount of this form of disease present in their district.

Since July 15th, 1912, the Insurance Act has made it possible for the treatment of this disease to be provided by the Government for all insured persons and their dependents—this is a very great advance in the crusade against the scourge. For Accrington and District, the carrying out of these provisions is vested in the County Council, but it remains the duty of the Medical Officer of Health of the area, on the receipt of a notification, to take such action as will be likely to prevent the spread of disease.

Cancer.—Deaths from Malignant Disease are this year much fewer in number than usual. Investigations into the natural history of this disease are being carried out, but so far no reliable preventive means have been

discovered. In studying the antecedent circumstances of large numbers of afflicted persons, great worry of one form or another seems to be a more common factor than any other condition. Peace of mind in carrying the troubles from which no one escapes, would seem to be a valuable preventive means in avoiding the invasion of this terrible disease.

Water Supply.—The past year has been remarkable for the exceptionally high rainfall, the quantity registered at Burnley Road Reservoirs, on the outskirts of the Borough, being 56.89 inches, the highest aggregate since the year 1877, and 8.46 inches more than last year. The wettest month of the year was August, during which a rainfall of 9.47 inches was registered, rain falling on 27 days.

The purchase of farms on the Dean Clough watershed, mentioned in the last report, has been completed, and the Board have taken steps to prevent any danger of the water in the Dean Clough reservoir becoming contaminated.

The Board have made further arrangements for the mixing of the water from Altham Pumping Station with that from other sources, and during the last six months, the water from Burnley Road Reservoir (into which water from Altham Bridge is pumped) has not been of a higher average degree of hardness than that from Mitchell's and Dean Clough reservoirs. Arrangements have also been made with a local chemist for periodical tests for hardness to be made of the water supplied from Burnley Road.

The estimated quantity of water in the Board's reservoirs at 31st December, 1912, was 399 $\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons, as against 348 $\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons at 31st December, 1911.

Disposal of Excrement.—The sewage of the Borough is carried away by the water carriage system of disposal, and is dealt with by the Accrington and Church Outfall Sewerage Board at their works, at Coppy Clough. Pails are rapidly disappearing, their place being taken by waste water closets. There are now only about 1,160 pail closets in the borough, which are regularly attended to, their contents being disposed of through the main sewer at the Depot in Hyndburn Road, not far distant from Coppy Clough.

Disinfecting Apparatus. — Our steam disinfecting apparatus is more than adequate for our needs, and continues to work satisfactorily. The Victoria Hospital, devoted chiefly to surgical cases, has for many years been able to rely upon it for the disinfection of mattresses and bedding which have become infected, without even a shade of doubt as to its efficacy.

Abattoirs. — The Public Abattoirs are regularly inspected, and are under the constant care of one of the Corporation's workmen, who resides on the premises.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.—Articles purchased from 1st January to 31st December, 1912, and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis :—

Milk	103
Butter	22
Lard	5
Rum	4
Whisky	4
Gin	3
Sweet Spirits of Nitre	2
Compound Cinnamon Powder	2

According to the Analyst's certificates, 134 of the samples were genuine, three described as being of poor quality, and eight not genuine.

Proceedings were taken against eight of the vendors for selling milk to the prejudice of the purchaser, and fines of 20/- and costs, 20/- and costs, 30/- and costs, 40/- and costs, 50/- and costs, £5 and costs, and £5 and costs were imposed. One case was dismissed on payment of costs.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—Of the 52 farms within the Borough, 47 have complied with the requirements of the Regulations which were drawn up in 1901. But although the construction of the byres has been greatly improved as regards air-space, means of ventilation and arrangements for cleanliness, there yet remains in the minds of many of the farmers a deeply rooted antipathy against giving the cows that free ventilation which was aimed at when the reconstructions were carried out.

The farms are regularly visited, and the lime-washing twice a year is carried out and inspected by the sanitary officers.

Factory and Workshop Acts.—Frequent visits are made to the Factories and Workshops to ascertain their condition as far as the matters under the supervision of the Local Authority are concerned.

Notifications under Sections 5 and 14 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, have been received from H.M. Inspector, as follows :—

98 ABBEY STREET :—

“Limewashing of ceiling of bakehouse overdue.”
Ceiling limewashed.

62 ABBEY STREET :—

“Walls and ceiling require cleansing.” Walls and ceiling stripped and re-papered.

BRIDGE STREET (PAINTER’S WORKSHOP) :—

“Without sanitary accommodation.” A new fresh-water closet fixed.

ABBAY STREET (CO-OP. TAILORS) :—

“Water closets for sexes adjoining, approach not separate.” No action taken.

CORPORATION STREET (LIVESEY’S XMAS CARD FACTORY) :—

“Insufficient means of escape in case of fire.” An outside iron escape fixed.

37 WARNER STREET :—

“Walls and ceiling appear to require limewashing.”
Workroom limewashed and cleansed.

88 BLACKBURN ROAD :—

“Both rooms appear to require limewashing.”
Both rooms limewashed and cleansed.

21 CHURCH STREET :—

“Workshop appears to require limewashing.”
Workshop limewashed.

93A LOWER ANTLEY STREET :—

“Sole making room requires cleansing.” Workroom thoroughly cleansed.

6 DUTTON STREET :—

“Bakehouse papered—should be limewashed.” No action taken.

116A STANLEY STREET :—

“Walls and ceiling require cleansing.” Workshop limewashed and cleansed.

ALLIANCE MILLS, BAXENDEN :—

“Insufficient means of escape in case of fire.” Two iron ladders fixed outside.

62 ABBEY STREET :—

“Water closet communicating directly with workshop.” No action taken.

43 WHALLEY ROAD :—

“Walls and ceiling of mixing room papered.” No action taken.

79 BURNLEY ROAD :—

“Walls and ceiling of mixing room papered.” No action taken.

OXFORD STREET (WALKER, COACHBUILDER) :—

“Insufficient means of escape in case of fire.” No action taken.

136 BLACKBURN ROAD :—

“Three workrooms require limewashing.” Workrooms limewashed and cleansed.

The following is a copy of the official form required by the Home Office as to the proceedings taken in connection with the supervision of Factories, Workshops, etc.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS
OF NUISANCES.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries).	35	..	..
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries).	264	7	..
WORKPLACES	23	..	..
TOTAL	322	7	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Re-medied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness	8	8	..	..
Want of Ventilation	..	..	..	..
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..
Want of Drainage of Floors	..	..	..	..
Other Nuisances	..	..	..	..
Sanitary accommodation { Insufficient	1	1	..	..
{ Unsuitable or Defective ..	4	4	..	..
{ Not separate for sexes ..	1	..	..	..
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—				
Illegal occupation of underground Bakehouse (S. 101)	..	..	..	..
Breach of Special Sanitary requirements for Bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)	5	5	..	..
Other offences	..	..	..	..
TOTAL.....	19	18	..	..

CLASS.		NUMBER.		
3.—HOME WORK.				
Lists of Outworkers, (Section 107):—		Lists	Outwk's	
			Con-tractors	Work-men
Lists received :	Twice in the year	22	4	38
„	Once in the year	2	2	..
Addresses of Outworkers forwarded to other Councils		..	13	
„	„	..	..	
Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises		..	30	
Outwork in Unwholesome Premises (Sec. 108):—			..	
Instances.....				
Notices served				
4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.				
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the year.				
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bake- houses, may be enumerated here.	Bakers, Confectioners		33	
	Dressmakers, Milliners, &c.		60	
	Tailors, &c.		25	
	Cloggers, Bootmakers, &c.		36	
	Other Workshops		104	
Total number of Workshops on Register			258	
5.—OTHER MATTERS.				
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—				
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133)			..	
Action taken in matters referred by		Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector		
H.M. Inspector as remediable			14	
under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 5)			13	
Other			..	
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101):—				
Certificates granted during the year			..	
In use at the end of the year			7	

The following is a more detailed list of the various Workshops in the Borough.

Bakers, Confectioners, etc.	33
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	60
Tailors	25
Bootmakers, Cloggers, etc.	36
Hosiers	3
Brush-maker	1
Harness-makers	4
Cycle and Motor Repairers	2
Cabinet-makers, Joiners, etc.	12
Basket-maker.....	1
Fent Sorters	2
French Polishers, Upholsterers	6
Plumbers	7
Painters	5
Masons	2
Smiths	6
Wheelwrights, Coach Builders	4
Electrical Engineers	2
Hot Water Engineer	1
Picture Framers	3
Jewellers	5
Photographers	3
Sugar Boiler	1
Coopers	2
Tinsmiths	2
Chemical Manufacturers	4
Paper Bag Makers	2
Rag Sorters	2
Beer Bottler	1
Soap and Boiler Compo Makers	2
Sauce Maker	1
Fish Curers	2
Tripe Boilers	6
Gut Scraper	1
Piano Repairer	1
Christmas Card Dealer	1
Polish Maker	1
Florists	3
Weighing Instrument Repairer	1
Gas and Water Meter Repairer	1
Ropemaker	1

258

Factories	155
Cotton Cloth Factories	29

Observations.—A perusal of the figures in the Table showing the statistics of several neighbouring towns and others of similar populations, shows that Accrington quite holds its own when viewed from this point of view ; the Birth-rate is low, but the Infant Mortality does something to compensate for it. Deaths from Zymotic Diseases is this year the lowest in the list of towns of similar population.

Our long chimneys continue to belch forth upon us a quite unnecessary amount of smoke, the baneful effects of which have this year been mitigated by a plentiful rainfall ; all the same, it would add greatly to the pleasantness of life and encourage efficient ventilation of houses, and especially bedrooms if this great nuisance was reduced.

Table showing Birth and Death Rates in certain Towns in 1912.

NAME.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infants' Deaths per 1000 Births.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Respiratory Death Rate.	Phtisis Death Rate.	Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis.	Malignant Disease Death Rate.	Average Death Rate for 10 years, 1902-1911.
Ashton-under-Lyne.....	45179	23.3	16.8	126	1.4	4.0	1.1	.2	..	..
Blackburn	133539	20.4	14.4	119	1.0	3.10	.81	.24	.95	16.5
Blackpool	62125	15.5	12.12	88	.31	1.74	.79	.29	1.11	12.35
Burnley.....	108012	23.1	15.0	144	1.17	3.3	.79	.43	.82	17.6
Burton-on-Trent	48000	22.1	12.6	69	.41	1.93	1.37	.41	.76	..
Bury	59106	20.81	14.18	112	.86	2.47	1.30	.44	.71	16.37
Clitheroe	12700	20.0	12.9	94	.70	1.1	1.25	.55	.70	14.5
Crewe	45342	22.5	12.6	82	1.27	2.02	.83	.46	.9	13.7
Darwen	40611	17.02	13.86	127	.86	2.56	.71	.22	1.01	..
Haslingden	18762	18.54	15.66	89	.69	2.66	1.06	.42	1.0	..
Keighley	43750	20.82	13.89	100	1.32	2.37	.68	.59	.93	14.73
Lancaster	38513	22.14	12.90	95	.67	2.46	1.06	.46	.88	13.98
Nelson	40741	16.9	11.8	93	1.05	2.47	.52	.45	.72	10.9
Padiham	13820	21.12	14.18	116	1.23	2.67	.69	..	.79	..
Southport	70640	14.71	12.43	76	.31	1.83	.81	.31	1.08	..
Wigan	90504	28.59	15.91	125	1.34	4.02	.72	.74	.53	18.52
Church	6950	17.8	11.6	88	.43	1.8	.86	.28	1.0	16.0
Clayton-le-Moors	9000	25.8	14.6	107	2.0	2.5	.44	.33	.66	14.6
Great Harwood	14000	21.9	11.0	52	1.14	1.5	1.0	.0	1.07	11.25
Oswaldtwistle	15870	21.99	12.41	108	1.00	2.14	.44	.37	.81	15.10
Accrington	45175	18.75	11.77	76	.35	1.72	.79	.37	.64	14.59

TABLE (C).
COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1912.

BOROUGH OF ACCRINGTON.

Medical Officer of Health, ARTHUR GREENHALGH.

Inspector of Nuisances, RICHARD DIGGLE.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation? For Small-pox, Corrugated iron building. For other Infectious Diseases,—

Is it Joint or otherwise? Belongs to Accrington.

Number of Beds available for your district? For Small-pox, 24.

Number of cases removed to Hospital from your District. Small-pox, —. Diphtheria, —. Scarlet Fever, —. Enteric Fever, —. Erysipelas, —. Puerperal Fever, —. Total, —.

Deaths in Hospital of patients from your District. From what causes?

How is Disinfection carried out? Houses, Formalin fumigation and spray. Number of Houses disinfected, 232. Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, etc., (steam or otherwise)? Steam (Goddard, Massey & Warner). Where is apparatus situated? Hyndburn Road Depot (within the District).

Number of cases of Infectious Diseases reported under the Notification Act? 151, and Pulmonary Tuberculosis 95.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Act notifiable (for instance, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Chicken-pox, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, &c.)? If so, what are they?—Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Poliomyelitis, Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Diseases specially prevalent? Period?

Any Schools Closed? No. If so, what disease?

Number of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910. None.

Bacteriological Examinations. Number and nature of specimens examined—Ringworm, 4. Sputum, 4. Milk, 6.

Arrangement (if any) made under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910? Supply of serum kept at Police Station.

"The Housing of the Working Classes Acts, 1890 to 1909"—Has your Authority determined the procedure to be adopted for the inspection of your District as required by Article 1 of the Regulations?—Yes. Has your Authority prepared, as required by Article 1 (3), a list of dwelling-houses, the early inspection of which is desirable?—Yes. Has your Authority designated an officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Article 2. If so, what officer?—Inspector of Nuisances. Have the necessary books, forms, &c., for keeping the required records been obtained?—Yes. Action taken in 1912—Number of Dwelling-houses inspected.—108.

Number of Dwelling-houses considered unfit for human habitation.—19. Number of Representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders.—15. Number of Closing Orders made.—15. Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders.—80. Number of Dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habitation after making Closing Orders.—9. Number of Dwelling-houses demolished.—2. General Character of defects found to exist.—(See Inspector's Report).

From where is the Water Supply obtained? Dean Clough, Mitchell's, and Burnley Road reservoirs in addition to a copious supply of deep well water from Altham. What is its condition?—Good. Is it subject to your inspection?—Yes.

Is Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactorily?—Yes. How performed (by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses)?—By Sanitary Authority.

How is the Refuse disposed of?—By destruction by burning. Has a Destructor been provided?—Yes, Horsfall's 6-cell destructor.

Sewage Disposal Works. Method of treatment.—Bacterial filter beds. What is the character of the Drainage system?—Good. Drain Testing, Flushing, &c.?—Satisfactory.

Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams.—None.

Canal Boats: Number Inspected.—

What is the condition of the Bakehouses?—Good.

What is the condition of the Slaughter Houses?—Good. Has a Public Abattoir been provided?—Yes.

What is the condition of the Lodging Houses?—Fair.

Are they registered?—Yes.

What is the sanitary condition of the Schools?—Good.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected?—Yes. What is their condition?—With one or two exceptions, very good.

Have Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B.?—Yes. Are they enforced?—Yes.

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow.—600 c.ft

Number of Cowkeepers.—52. Number on Register.—52.

Number of Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers).—21 in the District; 86 outside the District. Number on Register.—107.

Food unfit for Human consumption: amount seized or surrendered—5,399 lbs. of Beef, 20 sets of organs, 367 lbs. of Pork, 12 lbs. of Kidney, 20 lbs. of Bacon, 792 lbs. of Fish, and 2 Bags of Mussels.

Number of Carcases and parts of Carcases condemned for Tuberculosis? 21

Number of Legal Proceedings, and result.—None.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances.—Number of Notices served 203. Nuisances remedied, 764. Number of Legal Proceedings taken and result.—None.

Closet Accommodation of the District—

Number of Privy Middens. 10

Pail Closets. 1160

Fresh Water Closets. 1083

Waste Water Closets. 8969

Number of Privy Middens converted during 1912—To W.C.s
3; to Pails, &c., —.

Number of Pail Closets converted to W.Cs., 97

Smoke :—

Number of Observations.—25

Number of Legal Proceedings taken and result.—None.

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black
smoke per hour?—8 minutes.

Has the Authority adopted—

“The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890” ?—Yes.

“The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890” ?—Yes.

“The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907” ?—No.

“The Notification of Births Act, 1907” ?—No.

Has a Health Visitor been appointed ?—No.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1912.—

Work done under Town Planning Act.

Chief Sanitary Requirements of district.—

Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Abatement of smoke nuisance.

More speedy removal of contents of horse middens,

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD RETURN

TABLE I.—For Whole District.

Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.				
	Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		
		Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Number.	Rate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1907	44366	1028			633	14.26	17	47	110		663	14.94
1908	44555	1012			631	14.16	16	47	139		662	14.85
1909	44699	946			648	14.49	17	48	117		679	15.19
1910	44875	926			566	12.61	9	43	101		600	13.37
1911	45075	785	792	17.57	681	15.10	16	46	143	180.55	711	15.77
1912	45175	842	847	18.75	499	11.04	12	45	65	76.74	532	11.77

NOTES.—This Table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrected rates are not available. The rates are calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population.

* In Column 6 are included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district.

In Column 12 is entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 8 and by addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in Column 8, and by addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).....3426.6

Total population at all ages 45,031 } At Census of 1911.

Number of inhabited houses 10,689 }

Average number of persons per house 4.2 }

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD RETURN.
Table II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1912.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.								
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upw'd								
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)...	10	..	2	6	..	2	..	..	2	1	..	3	1	2	..	1
Erysipelas	16	..	..	1	..	6	7	2	2	2	1	..	4	5	..	2
Scarlet fever	103	..	35	64	3	1	..	..	13	9	15	20	12	8	11	15
Enteric fever	18	..	..	5	5	6	2	..	1	2	1	3	2	7	2	..
Puerperal fever.....	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	95	..	..	5	19	44	24	3	8	13	10	16	14	6	10	18
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	246	2	37	81	28	60	33	5	26	28	27	43	34	29	23	36

Isolation Hospital—Name and Situation : For treatment of Small-pox only. Total available beds :—24

TABLE III.—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1912.

TABLE III.—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1912.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" "WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT."										Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District
All causes: { Certified Uncertified		All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and 2 years	2 and 5 years	5 and 15 yrs.	15 and 25 yrs.	25 and 45 yrs.	45 and 65 yrs.	65 and upwards		
I		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	II	
All causes: { Certified Uncertified		522	61	19	11	21	26	75	148	161	..	
I		10	4	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..	
1	Enteric Fever	5	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	
2	Smallpox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
3	Measles	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
4	Scarlet Fever	3	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	
5	Whooping Cough	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
6	Diphtheria and Croup	3	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	
7	Influenza	10	..	..	1	..	1	..	4	4	..	
8	Erysipelas.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	
9	Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	36	..	..	..	1	8	19	7	1	2	
10	Tuberculous Meningitis	9	2	2	1	2	1	1	..	..	1	
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases	8	2	..	1	1	1	2	1	..	2	
12	Cancer, malignant disease	29	..	..	..	..	..	2	20	7	1	
13	Rheumatic Fever	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	
14	Meningitis.....	9	..	2	1	3	..	2	1	..	1	
15	Organic Heart Disease	43	..	..	..	..	1	3	23	16	..	
16	Bronchitis.....	45	5	2	3	..	..	2	12	21	1	
17	Pneumonia (all forms)	23	2	3	..	..	1	4	9	4	..	
18	Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	10	1	1	..	..	..	2	2	4	..	
19	Diarrhoea and Enteritis	9	6	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	3	
20	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	5	..	..	..	2	..	..	4	..	..	
21	Cirrhosis of Liver	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	
21A	Alcoholism	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	11	7	..	
22	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	21	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	
23	Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	
24	Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition.....	7	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	..	..	
25	Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	30	29	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	
26	Violent Deaths, excluding suicide	14	1	1	1	3	..	2	3	3	6	
27	Suicide	9	..	..	..	..	3	3	2	1	..	
28	Other defined Diseases	181	13	5	1	3	3	22	41	93	13	
29	Diseases ill-defined or unknown	10	..	..	..	..	2	2	5	1	1	
Totals		532	65	19	11	21	26	77	149	164	33	

(Classified in accordance with the MANUAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH, as prepared by the Registrar-General)

[illegible]

Public Health Department.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1912.

RICHARD DIGGLE, Assoc. Royal San. Inst.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
ACCRINGTON.

**To the Sanitary Authority
of the Borough of Accrington.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT of the work done by this
Department.

**Inspections under the Housing and Town Planning
Act, 1909.**

108 houses in the following districts have been inspected.

Elephant Street district	..	4	houses.
Blackburn Road district	..	6	..
Royds Street district	..	37	..
Wellington and Grange Street district	..	20	..
Grange Lane district	..	7	..
Manchester Road and Culvert Street district	..	18	..
Black Abbey Street district	..	7	..
Other districts	..	9	..

The number of houses inspected during the year has
been comparatively small but the amount of work
represented is greater and more important than in previous
years.

I invariably find that the owners of property are willing
to comply with reasonable requirements, and in the majority
of cases the condition of the houses is due to neglect by the
tenants.

Closing orders were made against two houses under the Old Court room off Manchester Road. These houses could not be made fit for habitation and have been converted into a workshop.

Seven houses in Grange Lane were also closed, but extensive alterations rendered them fit for habitation, and the closing orders were determined.

Four houses in Elephant Street were considered unfit for habitation on account of the congested neighbourhood, and insanitary surroundings. The many difficulties encountered were overcome by persuading an adjoining owner to purchase two of the houses, and demolish same to improve the condition of his own property. The transfer of the property has been effected, and the work will be carried out at the earliest opportunity without closing orders having to be made.

Closing orders were also made against six houses in Royds Street; two have been determined, and four will probably be rendered fit early in the coming year.

A much needed improvement has been effected at the Culvert Street property. Several old privies have been abolished, the whole of the property has been re-drained, and separate closets and ashbins provided for each house.

The following is a summary of the work done under this heading :—

Total houses inspected.....	108
Total houses found satisfactory.....	8
Total houses found defective (slight)	37
Total houses found defective (serious)	44
Total houses found unfit for habitation	19
Number of statutory notices served..	52
Number of informal notices served....	6
Number of closing orders	15

Of the 81 defective houses, 76 have been remedied.

Of the 19 houses unfit for habitation, four have been rendered fit without closing orders having to be made, and of the remaining 15 for which closing orders were made, nine have been rendered fit, two permanently closed, and four are in progress.

Defects found.			Remedied.
Insanitary pail closets	23	..	19
Insanitary privies ..	3	..	3
Insanitary ashpits ..	16	..	12
Defective drainage ..	52	..	47
Defective yard paving..	64	..	59
Dilapidated outhouses	38	..	33
Defective floors ..	26	..	26
Defective walls	32	..	32
Defective roofs	54	..	54
Defective stairs ..	10	..	9
Houses damp	50	..	50
Houses not properly ventilated	35	..	34
Houses dirty	13	..	13
Houses overcrowded ..	6	..	6
Houses unfit for habitation	19	...	17
Houses permanently closed ..		..	2

Nuisances, etc.

In addition to the work done under the Housing and Town Planning Act, other matters have been remedied, including :—

Insanitary pail closets	72
Defective drainage	94
Defective yard paving.. ..	44
Insanitary ashpits	65
Defective tippers to W.W.C.'s	59
Accumulations of manure	12
Defective rain water pipes	16
Defective street gullies	5
Choked W.W.C.'s and drains (opened by Corporation workmen)	1650

Much-needed improvements have been effected at several blocks of property, including Nos. 26 to 44 Croft Street ; 74 to 86 Manchester Road, and 1 to 5 Hollins Lane ; and 482 to 504 Manchester Road.

Factory and Workshop Acts.

The work done under this head will be found in the Medical Officer of Health's portion of the Report.

Particular attention was paid to the Bakehouses and their condition was very satisfactory.

Diseases of Animals Acts.

The various outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease during the year imposed a considerable amount of work upon the Staff of this Department. For many weeks, cattle could not be moved in or out of the District without licence, and the many Regulations of the Board of Agriculture were strictly adhered to. Fortunately, no outbreak occurred in our own district.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order.

The 52 cowsheds in the borough have received a fair amount of attention. Alterations have been made to one cowshed, and arrangements made for the reconstruction of two others during the coming season. One cowshed has been closed for dairy purposes on account of the land being taken for building.

It is a pleasure to report that the Regulations as to limewashing, etc., have been carried out at the stated times, viz. :—May and October.

Disinfection.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year :—

Scarlet Fever..	..	..	103
Diphtheria ..	..	..	10
Typhoid Fever ..	..	..	18
Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	2
Erysipelas ..	..	..	16
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	..	..	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	..	..	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	..	..	95

Each case was visited, and instructions given as to the necessary precautions to be taken to prevent spreading of the disease. After the recovery, or death, of the patients, the houses were disinfected with formaldehyde, and the clothing, bedding, etc., taken away and treated in the steam disinfectors.

232 rooms, 1,297 articles of clothing and bedding, 43 books, and 4 schools were disinfected, and 366 articles of clothing and bedding destroyed.

School Inspection.

The Elementary day schools were thoroughly cleaned down at the Easter and August holidays, and many visits were made during the progress of the cleansing operations.

Slaughter Houses and Markets.

The Slaughter Houses and Markets have been kept under constant observation, and the following is a summary of the food destroyed as unfit for sale :—

5,399-lbs. of Beef, 20 sets of organs, 367-lbs. of Pork, 12-lbs. of Kidney, 20-lbs. of Bacon, 792-lbs. of Fish, and 2 bags of Mussels.

During the year, 2,456 beasts, 308 calves, 27,215 sheep, and 820 pigs have been slaughtered at the Corporation Abattoirs.

Offensive Trades.

The premises used for offensive trades were frequently inspected, and found to be fairly well regulated.

One additional license has been granted during the year.

Common Lodging Houses.

The large Model Lodging House, and two smaller lodging houses are inspected weekly, and although improvement might be effected in one of the smaller houses, their condition on the whole is not so bad.

The "houses let in lodgings" are also inspected, and we have no reason to complain of the manner in which they are kept.

Petroleum Acts.

Twelve licenses for the storage of products of petroleum were renewed, and three additional licenses granted.

Smoke Nuisance.

25 observations were taken during the year, and notices served on two firms to abate nuisances caused by allowing black smoke to be emitted from their factory chimneys for above eight minutes in the hour. In one instance the nuisance was remedied by fixing automatic stokers, and in the other by substituting electric driving in a portion of the works.

Street Cleansing.

There are about 44 miles of paved streets in the Borough, and during the year, 1,809 loads of refuse have been removed therefrom, in addition to the sweepings picked up by the hand-cart men. 1,478 loads of refuse from street gullies, and 300 loads of snow were also removed.

There is no doubt that the copious rainfall we had during 1912 added greatly to the cleanliness of our streets.

Ashpit Cleansing.

The following particulars show the progress made with regard to the removal of household refuse.

	Year.	No. of houses.	Times emptied.	Per year.
Houses with ashpits				
or tubs	1912 ..	10000 ..	152786 ..	15.2
	1911 ..	10000 ..	115836 ..	11.5
Houses with galvanised				
bins	1912 ..	1033 ..	43413 ..	41.0
	1911 ..	981 ..	35970 ..	36.7

The four-wheeled waggon obtained last year has been of great advantage in collecting refuse. Another one has been built which shows still further improvement, the weight being only $14\frac{1}{2}$ cwts., as against 24 cwts., the weight of the first waggon. This enables heavier loads to be brought in without overtaxing the strength of the horses.

Destructors.

It was expected last year that when the gas plant for generating electricity was in full operation some relief would be afforded to the steam boilers, and consequently improve the draught for the Destructors. No appreciable difference has been observed, and it is now proposed to fix a fan for creating induced draught which should overcome the present difficulty.

CLINKER PLANT.—A new clinker crusher and elevator have been fixed, and are giving satisfaction.

On account of the exceptional demand for mortar, it was found necessary to erect another mill, making a total of four. The grinding of mortar from destructor clinker has proved an economical method of disposing of clinker by not having to cart such residual to a tip.

FISH PLANT.—The manufacture of fish manure has proved a most remunerative undertaking, and it is a matter of regret that we have not more fish refuse to deal with.

The accompanying table shows the cost of collecting and destroying the refuse from 1901 to 1912 inclusive.

BOROUGH OF ACCRINGTON.

Cost of Collection and Destruction of Refuse.

1901 to 1912 inclusive.

	DOMESTIC REFUSE.								COST OF COLLECTION. (Domestic Refuse only).								Cost of Destruction (all refuse) Wages only.				TOTAL COST.								
	No. of Loads	Weight.	Average weight per Load.	Market, Fish and Trade Refuse.	Total weight of Refuse.				Manual	Labour.			Team Labour,					Amount	per ton.	Amount.	per ton.	Amount.	per ton						
									Amount	per ton			Amount.	per ton				Amount	per ton.	Amount.	per ton.	Amount.	per ton						
1901..	8783	T. C. Q. 10416 12 1	T. C. Q. 1 3 2	T. C. Q. 363 7 3	T. C. Q. 10780 0 0	£	s. d.	d.	453	3 8	10.4	£	s. d.	s. d.	890	15 6	1 8.5	£	s. d.	s. d.	800	13 11	1 5.8	£	s. d.	s. d.	2144	13 1 4	0.7
1902..	9418	11503 13 3	1 4 1	441 17 1	11945 11 0	476	2 5	9.9	978	1 6	1 8.4	847	7 7	1 5.0	2301	11 6	3 11.3												
1903..	7961	11031 9 2	1 7 2	493 7 2	11524 17 0	409	7 9	8.9	836	7 6	1 6.1	798	1 2	1 4.6	2043	16 5	3 7.6												
1904..	7438	11468 5 1	1 10 3	497 16 3	11966 2 0	440	5 10	9.2	765	6 9	1 4.0	722	2 7	1 2.4	1927	15 2	3 3.6												
1905..	7373	11282 10 2	1 10 2	512 6 1	11794 16 3	412	8 11	8.7	776	14 0	1 4.5	759	0 10	1 3.4	1948	3 9	3 4.6												
1906*	6558	8916 11 1	1 7 1	373 7 3	9289 19 0	321	17 4	8.6	626	1 3	1 4.8	596	5 9	1 3.4	1544	4 4	3 4.8												
1907..	9045	11922 19 0	1 6 1	565 2 2	12488 1 2	439	16 2	8.8	845	5 5	1 5.0	881	7 2	1 4.9	2166	8 9	3 6.7												
1908..	9228	12009 15 0	1 6 0	637 10 0	12647 5 0	465	10 5	9.3	824	19 10	1 4.5	861	1 8	1 4.3	2151	11 11	3 6.1												
1909..	9125	11782 4 2	1 5 3	611 14 2	12393 19 0	475	14 6	9.6	819	7 5	1 4.6	820	2 7	1 3.8	2115	4 6	3 6.0												
1910..	9071	12061 16 3	1 6 2	603 11 1	12665 8 0	480	16 6	9.5	817	9 10	1 4.2	835	6 2	1 3.8	2133	12 6	3 5.5												
1911..	9012	11365 5 1	1 5 1	544 6 3	11909 12 0	486	17 0	10.2	803	15 0	1 4.9	866	12 6	1 5.4	2157	4 6	3 8.5												
1912..	8778	12130 5 3	1 7 2	568 19 3	12699 5 2	485	12 7	9.6	844	2 1	1 4.7	972	4 7	1 6.3	2301	19 3	3 8.6												

* In May, June, and July, the Destructors were shut down for alterations, and during that time, 1,990 Loads of Refuse were tipped at the various tips.

The following shows the weight of material sorted from the refuse, and the amount realised for same, together with the residual, etc., from the Destructors.

	Weight.			Amount realised.		
	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	79	17	2	59	18	0
„ (School) ..	2	14	0	3	7	7
String	0	9	0	1	7	0
Bright tins	42	15	3	35	5	0
Other Scrap Metal	47	19	2	44	19	2
Clinker	2160	0	0	108	0	0
Mortar	4373	18	1	1062	6	3
Fish Manure	36	13	3	289	2	0
Calorific power (Electricity Department).	..			582	1	0
				£2186 6 0		
Last year				£1259 16 4		

RICHARD DIGGLE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.